

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2004 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Tommy Farrell, Maureen McKay, Jim O'Neill, Stephanie Young, Brian Reeves, Drew McIntyre, Iain Linton, Robert McDill, Eric Jackson, George Smith, Jimmy Kelly, Neil McGhee, Eric Ross, Elaine Dinwoodie, Elaine Stewart and Jimmy Carmichael; Church Representatives: Rev John Taylor, John McHugh and Dr Ivy Barclay; Teacher Representative: Iain Harvey and Parent Representative: George Hammersley.

**ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources; John Mulgrew, Director of Educational and Social Services; Alex McPhee, Director of Finance; David Mitchell, Head of Administrative and Legal Services; Kay Gilmour, Head of Community Support; Euan Couperwhite, Head of Resource Support; Graham Short, Head of Service: Quality Improvement; John McCarney, Head of Service: Schools Support; Robin Gourlay, Head of Onsite Services; Chris Johnston, Education Finance Manager; Alex McPhee, Financial Services Manager; Anne Jackson, Principal Officer (Community Learning and Development); Janie Allen, Principal Officer (Early Years); John Alexander, Principal Officer (Quality and Planning); Willie White, Physical Activity Development Officer; and Sharon McHarg, Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Daniel Coffey, Willie Coffey, Provost Jane Darnbrough, John Campbell and Councillor John Knapp.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Tommy Farrell, Chair.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS**

1. The Chair welcomed Dr Ivy Barclay, the third Church Representative, to her first meeting of the Committee. He also welcomed Scott Fleming, who was attending the Committee whilst on work experience from Grange Academy.

**NON-ELECTED MEMBER REPRESENTATION - PARENT REPRESENTATIVE**

2. There was submitted a joint report dated 15 January 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources and the Director of Educational and Social Services which informed of the results of the election of a Parent Representative to sit as a member on the Education Committee.

It was agreed to note the outcome of the election process and to welcome George Hammersley as a member of the Education Committee for 2003/2007.

**BUDGETARY CONTROL STATEMENT - EDUCATION TO 16 NOVEMBER 2003  
(PERIOD 8)**

3. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 8 January 2004 (circulated) by the Directors of Finance and Educational and Social Services which advised of the

current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for the Education Service for the period ended 16 November 2003 (Period 8).

#### **POSITION STATEMENT ON BEST VALUE (Item 4, Page 511, 03/07)**

4. There was submitted a report dated 22 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the progress made by the Department towards the implementation of Best Value.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Educational and Social Services provide future reports on initiatives related to Best Value;
- (ii) to note that this report had been presented to the Social Work Committee for consideration on the 29 January 2004; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

#### **NATIONAL PRIORITIES BASELINE REPORT**

5. There was submitted a report dated 9 December 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the publication of the National Priorities Baseline Report for East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the position of East Ayrshire as reflected by the National Priorities Baseline Report;
- (ii) to receive further reports on progress of addressing National Priorities on an annual basis; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

#### **GIRLS IN SPORT**

6. There was submitted a report dated 7 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which informed of developments to improve participation of girls in out of school hours school sport in East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to the continued development of programmes of physical activity for children and young people, especially girls; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

#### **DESTINATION OF LEAVERS STATISTICS**

7. There was submitted and noted a report dated 19 December 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which informed of destinations of leavers from East Ayrshire Schools for 2002/2003, as published in a recent National Statistical Bulletin.

**RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION: ENSURING IMPROVEMENT  
IN OUR SCHOOLS**

8. There was submitted a report dated 15 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for a response to the Scottish Executive on the consultation and draft Bill entitled "Ensuring Improvement in our Schools".

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposed response to the Scottish Executive detailed in Appendix 1 to the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**PROPOSED SCHOOL HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS 2005/2006**

9. There was submitted a report dated 13 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval to consult with educational establishments, school boards, the Chambers of Commerce, Churches and the Teachers' Unions on the school holiday proposals as detailed within the report.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the proposals as detailed within the report be issued for consultation with educational establishments, Schools Boards, the Chambers of Commerce, Churches and Teachers' Unions;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit a further report outlining the results of the consultation process; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**EDUCATION (ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR LEARNING) (SCOTLAND) BILL**

10. There was submitted a report dated 22 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the result of a consultation exercise on the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Bill.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the report as a response to the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Bill;
- (ii) to remit to the Director of Educational and Social Services to write to the Scottish Executive seeking reassurance that the additional costs arising from implementation of this legislation would be supported by national financial allocations; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**ENTERPRISE IN EDUCATION: HUNTER FOUNDATION SUPPORT**

11. There was submitted a report dated 12 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services informing of the support for developments in Enterprise in Education being provided by the Hunter Foundation.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to commend this development as detailed in the report of Enterprise in Education with a specific focus on the Cumnock and Stewarton Learning Partnerships; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**A TEACHING PROFESSION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY - PREMATURE EARLY RETIREMENT TO SUPPORT MANAGEMENT RESTRUCTURING**

12. There was submitted a report dated 12 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for a Premature Early Retirement Scheme which would support the further implementation of the Scottish Executive document "A Teaching Profession for the 21st Century".

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the Premature Early Retirement Scheme as outlined in Section 3 of the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**ACTION PLAN ON ADULT LITERACY AND NUMERACY 2004-2006**

13. There was submitted a report dated 14 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which (i) advised of the production of the East Ayrshire Action Plan on Adult Literacy and Numeracy (2004/2006); and (ii) sought endorsement of the Plan.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the role of the Council in the Action Plan for Literacy and Numeracy in East Ayrshire; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**EAST AYRSHIRE CHILDCARE PARTNERSHIP: ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT**

14. There was submitted a report dated 12 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of progress made by East Ayrshire Childcare Partnership taking forward the aims of the Childcare Strategy.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to continue to support the work of East Ayrshire Childcare Partnership; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**COMMISSIONING, CONTRACTING AND CONTRACT MONITORING FRAMEWORK**

15. There was submitted a report dated 14 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the implementation of a Commissioning Framework for Education Services.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the implementation of the Framework; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **REVIEW OF WOMEN'S AID SERVICES IN EAST AYRSHIRE**

16. There was submitted a report dated 14 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which (i) advised of the outcomes of the review of the Women's Aid Services in East Ayrshire; and (ii) sought approval of the recommendations within the report.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the level of funding of £266,552 plus inflation;
- (ii) to approve the findings of the review;
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services report to Committee with the outcome of the office, accommodation and staffing review; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **SCOTTISH HEALTHY CHOICES AWARD**

17. There was submitted a report dated 4 February 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised that the Schools Catering Service had achieved Commended Status in the 'Scottish Healthy Choices Award Scheme'.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Schools Catering Service delivered by Onsite Services had been successful in achieving Commended Status in this prestigious awards scheme;
- (ii) to note that this was a useful development which demonstrated the Council's ongoing commitment to Community and Health Strategies for East Ayrshire; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **EAST AYRSHIRE CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2002-2003 (Item 7, Page 511, 03/07)**

18. There was submitted a report dated 9 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the content of the East Ayrshire Child Protection Committee Annual Report 2002-2003 and of the arrangements made for its public launch.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the report had been considered by the Social Work Committee on 29 January 2004; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **REPORT ON CALEB NESS INQUIRY - IMPLICATIONS FOR EAST AYRSHIRE (Item 8, Page 511, 03/07)**

19. There was submitted a report dated 5 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which (i) informed of the recommendations made about Child Protection practice as detailed in the report of the Caleb Ness Inquiry; and (ii) advised of the position within East Ayrshire in respect of each recommendation.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the implications for East Ayrshire arising from the Caleb Ness Inquiry report and the progress being made in addressing those implications;
- (ii) to note that the report had been considered by the Social Work Committee on 29 January 2004;
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services present further progress reports to the Committee as appropriate; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

#### **THE SCHOOL ESTATE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

- 20.** There was submitted a report dated 23 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the preparation of the School Estate Management Plan and of its submission to the Scottish Executive.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress made to develop a School Estate Management Plan;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services bring forward proposals to address the issues outlined in the plan; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

#### **AWARDING OF CONTRACTS**

- 21.** There was submitted and noted a report dated 19 January 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which provided, for information, details of tenders which had been accepted in respect of the Education Service:-

<b><u>Contract</u></b>	<b><u>Successful Contractor</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
Cumnock Academy, CCTV and External Lighting Installation	VWS Ltd, Coatbridge	£71,843.10
PPP Transportation Impact Assessment	Dougall Baillie Associates, East Kilbride	£19,600.00
Loudoun Academy, Galston - Refurbishment (Fire Alarms)	The DH Morris Group, Glengarnock	£51,429.87
Proposed Youth Centre, Dalrymple	Forbes & Whiteford Ltd, Kilmarnock	£152,983.16

#### **PPP: BUILDING LEARNING COMMUNITIES - SCHOOL REFERRALS**

- 22.** There was submitted and noted a report dated 14 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the Scottish Executive's response to the referrals made to them for St Matthew's Primary, St Joseph's Academy (Cumnock Campus) and Park School as part of the Schools PPP Project.

**EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

23. The Committee resolved that under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Schedule 7A of the Act as shown against each item.

**PPP: BUILDING LEARNING COMMUNITIES - REVISED OUTLINE  
BUSINESS CASE (PARA 8 & 9)**

24. There was submitted a report dated 14 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which (i) updated on the progress made in the PPP Project and (ii) sought approval from the Committee for the submission of the Revised Outline Business Case (OBC) to the Scottish Executive.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the revised OBC, as attached at Appendix I of the report;
- (ii) to approve submission of the OBC to the Scottish Executive;
- (iii) to ask the Director of Educational and Social Services to provide further reports to Committee; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT ONSITE SERVICES UNIT TO  
16 NOVEMBER 2003 (PERIOD 8) (PARA 6)**

25. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 14 January 2004 (circulated) by the Directors of Finance and of Educational and Social Services which advised of the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for the Onsite Services Business Unit for the period ended 16 November 2003 (Period 8).

The meeting terminated at 1125 hours.